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ARIZONA LIBRARIAN

Vol. 6, No. 1

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MARKING AN EPOCH

This issue of the Arizona Librarian may well mark an epoch in Arizona library history. Its appearance is not simultaneous, to be sure, with the commencement of the movement for broader library facilities for all Arizona and the authorization of an agency to administer statewide library extension. That movement was initiated a number of years ago, and the interest then aroused by the activities of the Arizona State Library Association is still manifest. But it does signalize the consummation of data essential to effective support of the statewide library cause. Chairman Patricia Paylore and the other members of the Association's Survey and Planning Committee have performed a noteworthy feat and rendered an outstanding service in conducting and concluding a comprehensive survey of what the state and its counties, cities and localities have to offer in the way of libraries and library services. The results of their labors may well prove to be the very instrument required to bring success to the campaign to which the Association is so energetically directing its efforts.

Certainly there can be no question in the mind of any intelligent Arizonan of the desirability of statewide library extension, and of making library service accessible to every community and every citizen, but hardheaded facts authoritatively determined and the logic of indisputable figures will carry great weight in demonstrating to the doubter who is afraid of the cost how necessary are these facilities to the state's educational progress and healthy development, and that their value should not be measured merely in terms of dollars and cents.

As universal education is at once the cornerstone and the bulwark of true democracy, so also are adequate library facilities vital to education. A state is only as strong as its culture.

All success to the Arizona State Library Association, its officers and committee workers in their highly commendable and enlightened effort.

Department of Library and Archives

MULFORD WINSOR, Director

MEMO: To You
From 200,000 Arizonians
A Survey of Arizona Libraries

Patricia Paylore
Assistant Librarian, University of Arizona

Arizona, as her librarians have always known, is indeed the youngest state. The attitude has long prevailed that we are yet too young for grownup things like library service, and that perhaps in another generation when our literacy rate is somewhat higher and we have had more opportunity to embrace the varied cultural aspects of modern life, we may be rewarded with something more nearly akin to adequate library facilities. To those of us who have lived here awhile, this is understandable. A frontier state with a pioneer population only now beginning to be superseded by an industrial and commercial population, Arizona naturally was concerned until recently with the more basic problems of growth. Water, power, transportation, mining, and agriculture have been our primary interests. In less than one hundred years since the first Americans arrived, much has been achieved in the way of population growth, dams, electrification, diversity of agricultural crops, and the introduction of industrial and manufacturing operations.

In this process, nevertheless, one aspect of our growth has been neglected. It is now some sixty-seven years since the Rev. Prichard in 1882 rode by the still-swinging body of a Mexican hanged in a canyon near Bisbee and remarked in horror, "Something must be done to civilize these savages." His efforts resulted in a collection of "well-chosen books" which he sent to Bisbee after his return to New York. These very books, I am told, are preserved to this day in the Copper Queen Library there. But there is still no public tax-supported library in the whole of Cochise County. Neither is there in Apache, Mohave, Navajo, or Pinal counties. The combined population of these five counties represents 19.2% of the state's total population, or about one-fifth of our residents. If we are to continue propagandizing the world about the glories of Arizona via **Arizona Highways**, the radio, our distinguished visitors, and many booster organizations, we must sooner or later face the fact that we must have more to offer than climate and scenery, superb though these attributes may be. We must even be prepared eventually to offer more than movie theaters, race tracks, night clubs, and riding stables.

As our population becomes more stable, the casual character of our floating tourist population will give way to the more finished and established behavior of older and more settled areas. No one can deny that much of the tremendous influx of population into Arizona since the war is a permanent middle-class kind of population, people here to stay, to earn their livings here, to educate their children here, to put down their roots here. They will pay taxes here, too, taxes to help finance our criminal courts, our public relief program, our public health service, our mental hospitals, our industrial schools, and all the other expensive services that are mandatory in our social scheme. These are costly items, as disease and poverty and ignorance and crime always are. Yet for these things our newcomers are prepared to pay as a matter of course. On the positive side, however, they are also going to be interested in education, in government, in the opportunities modern society affords their children. It is likely they come from communities which have long

supported libraries to a greater extent than Arizona does. It is likely, too, that they cannot afford the cost of private libraries. Yet here they are not going to find, for the most part, that library development is on a par with other educational facilities.

In an effort to determine exactly what is the status of public library service in Arizona in 1948, the Arizona State Library Association charged the Chairman of its Survey and Planning Committee with the responsibility of collecting and interpreting current data toward this end. Questionnaires were worked out for the various types of libraries throughout the state, including all known public libraries, all school libraries as listed in the 1947-48 Educational Directory, the libraries of all colleges and the university, the State Library, and many special libraries. The tables accompanying this survey are based on the returns from these questionnaires, which are on file in the Chairman's office for examination upon request. The resources of the libraries of institutions of higher learning, the State Library, and special libraries are not primarily the concern of this survey, since they are not in the usual sense of the word "public" libraries. Statistics on these collections, while on file with the Chairman, will not, therefore, be referred to in the Survey. In reading the Survey, it is suggested that reference be made to the tables, since the text is an interpretation of the figures. Acknowledgment is hereby made to all libraries cooperating in the survey. It is hoped that the ultimate results will justify the labor.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

In Ashfork, Seligman, Casa Grande, Holbrook, Clifton, Tombstone, Florence, Chandler, Coolidge, Hayden, Kingman, Morenci, St. Johns, Superior, Springerville, Thatcher, and Winslow there are no public libraries. Population: 50,800.

In Duncan, Willcox, Safford, Williams, and Wickenburg there are women's club libraries, now partially supported by small grants from city and/or county funds, but manned a few hours weekly only by the doggedly devoted women of those communities who have shown the enterprise and initiative lacking in other community bodies. Total number of volumes in these libraries is about 16,500 serving a population of about 18,000. Total cost of operating and stocking these five libraries is about \$2,800, or an average annual expenditure of about \$560 each. Of this \$2,800, about \$937 goes for hourly wages and salaries at Safford and Wickenburg, the other libraries being staffed by voluntary help. From the balance of \$1,863, supplies and equipment must be bought, rental of quarters paid, and books and periodicals purchased for five libraries. Gifts are, of course, solicited, but the quality of such stock is always doubtful and usually results in the library being built up of discarded, unattractive, and out-of-date materials. The 15c per capita spent by these five libraries is the lowest statewide per capita expenditure of any state in the union, with the exception of Mississippi; however, in considering the total expenditure of \$2,800, it should be noted that of this amount only \$2,074 was supplied by the city or county, the remainder being derived from gifts and rental fees or fines. The per capita tax support, therefore, was only 11c in these five areas.

In four communities, Bisbee, Douglas, Clarkdale, and Jerome, libraries serving a combined population of 19,500 are supported entirely by the Phelps Dodge Corporation. Relatively in a better position than the previous group, these towns have a total book

stock of some 40,000 volumes. Total expenditures for these four libraries are not available, but the estimated annual cost of the Clarkdale-Jerome libraries is about \$3,100, of which approximately two-thirds goes for part-time salaries. The per capita library expenditure for this area (not for the county as a whole) is the highest in the state, being in the neighborhood of 88c for the Clarkdale-Jerome municipalities, or about 56c for the Verde Valley area. It should not be forgotten, however, that no part of this is public support. If and when the Phelps Dodge Corporation withdraws from this area because of depletion of ore deposits, Clarkdale and Jerome would revert to the status of the first group noted. What would become of the book stock is mere speculation at this point, the best guess being that it would be transferred to other Corporation libraries. The Bisbee-Douglas area is believed to have less per capita support from Phelps Dodge than the Clarkdale-Jerome area; they are in some respects, nevertheless, in a more favorable position since the librarians are full-time workers and the book stock is very much greater.

Flagstaff, Tempe, Glendale, Williams, Nogales, and Globe are the remaining towns with less than 10,000 population maintaining public library service. The combined population of these communities is 39,500. Total book stock is 57,500. Total library expenditures come to \$17,964. Of this amount \$15,437 is derived from public funds. The average per capita expenditure is 45c. In two of these towns, Flagstaff and Tempe, there are additional library facilities in the state-supported colleges, both of which render limited public library service in addition to covering their student and faculty needs.

Except for Phoenix and Tucson, the roster is complete with Mesa, Prescott, and Yuma, each of which has over 10,000 population. The combined population for these three areas is 42,000. Total book stock is 43,200. Total library expenditures amount to \$17,661. Of this amount some \$2,000 is derived from gifts and fees. This figure is an estimate, as no return was secured from Yuma breaking down its receipts by categories. The per capita expenditure for public library service in these three areas is 42c. Mesa may, of course, benefit additionally by service from the Maricopa County Free Library.

Phoenix-Maricopa County and Tucson-Pima County account for 59% of the total state population, 69% of the total book stock, and 86% of the total expenditures for library service. Per capita expenditure for library service in these two areas averages 36c. These are the only counties in the state in which countywide service is legally established, in Maricopa County through the County Free Library, in Pima County by the Carnegie Library in Tucson through contract with the County Board of Supervisors. The Maricopa County Free Library, established in 1929, still does not completely cover the county. Pima County's geographical situation is such that only book-mobile service can cover the remaining areas which are largely agricultural and rural. The only other town in the county, Ajo, now has a branch library.

This adds up to a very inequitable distribution of public library service. The per capita expenditure for public library service by counties, including funds derived from gifts and fees, varies from a low of 3c in Greenlee and Cochise counties to a high of 39c in Pima County. Only Pima and Maricopa counties spend more per capita than the state average of 25c, which is pulled down to this figure by the number of counties having no library service at all. Even Pima County's 39c is a far cry from the \$1.50 minimum recommended by

ARIZONA PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS, 1947/48

Town	Population	Expenditures	Salaries ¹	Volumes	Borrowers	Circulation	Staff	Library degree	Tax rate
Bisbee ²	6,000	\$ 950.00		11,500	1,425	32,635	1 1/2	0	
Clarkdale ²	2,000	1,618.00	\$ 1,218	7,560	291	13,377	1/2	0	
Douglas ²	10,000			13,500		32,440			
Duncan ³	2,000	443.02	volunteer	1,200	318		1/2	0	
Flagstaff ⁴	10,000	3,682.56	2,040	10,462	1,972	25,051	1 1/2	0	1 mill
Glendale	8,000	6,808.98	4,873	8,328	2,909	63,590	2	0	
Globe ⁴	7,000	2,573.00	1,200	12,000	900	12,459	1	0	1 mill
Jerome ²	1,500	1,500.00	1,100	8,000	445	9,500	1/2	0	
Mesa	12,000	6,386.35	4,175	10,000	2,109	38,303	2	0	
Nogales	7,000	2,881.88	1,687	15,559		15,378	1	0	
Phoenix: Public.....	186,000	71,854.64	50,617	117,000	16,165	400,000	14 1/2	3	1 mill
County.....		23,330.40	8,450	59,953	10,191	386,124	6	2	
Prescott	10,000	4,475.99	2,780	18,000	5,000	47,551	1 1/2	0	1 mill
Safford ³	5,000	614.87	243	4,714	484		2	0	
Tempe	5,500	1,670.00	1,120	7,000		22,000	1 1/2	0	
Tucson ⁵	135,000	52,839.22	39,076	80,000	25,934	254,682	16	2	1 mill
Wickenburg	3,000	1,160.23	694 ⁶	3,000	1,612	9,860	1 1/2	0	
Willcox ³	1,500	250.00	volunteer	3,000	900	5,400	1	0	
Williams	3,000	350.00	volunteer	4,500		4,200	1/2	0	
Yuma ⁷	12,000	6,800.00	3,900	15,216		42,850	2	0	
	426,500 ⁸	\$190,189.14	\$123,173	* 410,492	70,755	1,415,400	57 ⁹	7	

¹Included in expenditures figure.

²Entirely supported by Phelps Dodge Corp.

³Women's Club, partially supported by city and/or county funds.

⁴County contributes to income in varying amounts.

⁵Includes Pima County.

⁶Beginning July 1, 1948.

⁷No report. Figures taken from 1948 American Library Directory.

⁸Estimated. Countywide service claimed for some libraries is by courtesy only and therefore unregulated.

⁹Positions noted as part-time have been listed as 1/2.

the American Library Association, and certainly we should take no pride in the 3c, 4c, 9c, and 14c that prevails throughout most of the state.

This brief survey of Arizona's public library facilities by types of support may be summarized thus:

1. Four entire counties, Apache, Mohave, Navajo, and Pinal have no public library service of any kind. These four counties contain 107,000 people, or 14.2% of the total state population.
2. Cochise County, representing 5% of the state's population, has no publicly-supported libraries.
3. Maricopa and Pima Counties, with 59% of the population, have 69% of the book stock and spend 86% of the state's total public library expenditures.
4. The remaining 14% of the state's total public library expenditures is divided among the seven counties (Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, and Yuma) which comprise 20% of the state's total population and possess 26% of the state's total public library book stock.
5. Two areas of Cochise and Yavapai counties are provided with library service by a private corporation.
6. Nine per cent of the total public library expenditures in Arizona is derived from other than public funds (gifts, private support, fines, fees, etc.).

So much for the figures. What do Arizonians get for the money which is spent for public library service? Perhaps it would be easier to tell what they do not get:

1. They get no bookmobile service except in Phoenix, so that except for a few branches and stations maintained in Maricopa and Pima counties, no rural communities in the state have access to library facilities. This covers such areas outside of the established municipalities mentioned elsewhere, as Peach Springs, Bagdad, Congress Junction, Sedona, Parker, Gila Bend, Salome, Cibique, Patagonia, San Simon, and Paradise—to mention only a few.

2. They get no audio-visual materials. As far as could be determined, the only film collections available in the state are at the University and the two Colleges. These are, of course, for use by the people of Arizona, but the average citizen can make little use of them without facilities not usually at his command.

3. In a number of communities where there are established libraries, no periodical or newspaper resources are available. These are now generally recognized media of information, readily available for the most detailed use with the help of inexpensive (to small libraries) periodical indexes. Yet this source of current information about the present scene is largely absent from our state's library resources.

4. They get little reference service (that branch of library work organized to help people use libraries to answer their informational needs). Only Phoenix Public Library lists on its staff a reference librarian. Undoubtedly Tucson Public Library attempts to offer some reference service via its circulation staff, but the fact remains that the second largest public library in the state has no designated reference staff. Certainly the majority of libraries in the state with one or two part-time workers or at best one full-time staff member will have little opportunity to provide reference service. To them this would be a drain on time which one person, responsible for buying,

cataloging, and circulation, could ill afford. Yet is not this basic service one of the most important aspects of our right to exist on public support? If our libraries cannot afford to channel precious funds into reference tools and provide the staff to use them for the benefit of those whom we seek to serve, have we the right to pose as public servants? Does service consist only of providing the current fiction and similar light reading for housewives, tourists, and mystery/western fans which now cram our library shelves? I venture to say it does not, and that only to the extent we are able to give personalized and effective aid to the individual problems and needs of our citizens may we say we are good librarians.

5. Except again for Maricopa-Pima counties, there is little service specially designed for children. Of the 15,000 juveniles registered as borrowers in the state's public libraries, only 3,000 are registered outside of Phoenix-Tucson. Yet, as will be shown later when school libraries are examined, there are 42,700 children of school age in other parts of the state than Maricopa-Pima counties. In view of the increasing recognition of the need to **prevent** juvenile delinquency through education and recreation, and recalling the statewide campaign recently promoted to clear our newsstands of objectionable comic books, would it not seem logical to provide financial support for one of the most powerful tools devised for education and recreation—the library, and to stock, that agency with a substitute for comic books?

This is not a pretty picture. It is made uglier by the statewide apathy that has paralyzed us for a generation. There is no excuse for saying we cannot afford better public library service than we now offer. We had better be asking ourselves if we can afford not to improve our standards and support on a statewide basis in order to equalize for all our people the educational opportunities inherent in good public library service. Can we alone of all the forty-eight states afford to remain outside the nationwide picture of state support for public library service? The experience of neighboring states with comparable problems in the way of a comparatively small population scattered over a large geographical area, loss of revenue from a large floating population, and much of their capital wealth concentrated in a few large corporations, has demonstrated beyond doubt how library extension can be provided by such a state as our own. If we wished to look further, however, we could cite Louisiana and Alabama, states on which we are inclined to look down as backward and rife with corruption and discrimination, as shining examples of successful library development on a statewide basis for all their people.

Granted that our illiteracy rate may be high because of our Indian and Mexican populations, this should not result in our waiting until the present school generation of Indian and Mexican children has grown to reading maturity before providing them and their non-English speaking parents with library facilities. In fact, the experience of other states with this exact situation proves that nothing is more calculated to raise the literacy rate quickly than the extension of library service to areas with a high illiteracy rate. Then, too, among the great percentage of Arizona's literate population now without libraries, the desire for libraries is widespread and articulate. One has only to travel anywhere in the state to feel this undercurrent of dissatisfaction with the present situation. This swells more loudly in the rural areas, but its murmurings can be heard in areas already provided with libraries which are, from any point of view,

COUNTY STATIS

County	No. of libraries reporting	Volumes	% of total state public library book stock	Library expenditures	% of total state expend. for public libraries	Estimated population 1948	% of total state population	Per capita expenditure for public libraries
Apache ¹						27,000	3.6	\$
Cochise	3	28,000	6.8	\$ 1,200.00	0.63	38,000	5.0	3c
Coconino	2	14,962	3.6	4,032.56	2.1	25,000	3.3	16c
Gila	1	12,000	2.9	2,573.00	1.35	28,000	3.7	9c
Graham	1	4,714	1.1	614.87	0.32	14,000	1.8	4c
Greenlee	1	1,200	0.029	443.02	0.23	14,000	1.8	3c
Maricopa	6	205,281	50.0	111,210.60	58.53	315,000	41.0	35c
Mohave ¹						10,000	1.3	
Navajo ¹						30,000	4.0	
Pima	1	80,000	19.4	52,839.22	27.8	135,000	18.0	39c
Pinal ¹						40,000	5.3	
Santa Cruz	1	15,559	3.7	2,881.88	1.51	12,000	1.6	24c
Yavapai	3	33,560	8.1	7,593.99	3.99	32,000	4.2	23c
Yuma	1	15,216	3.7	6,800.00	3.57	30,000	4.0	22c
	20	410,492		\$190,189.14		750,000 ²		

¹No public libraries in these counties

²1946 valuation; latest available

³Courtesy Valley National Bank

TY STATISTICS

total state valuation	Per capita expenditure for public libraries	1947 Retail Sales	% of total state retail sales	Mining income— taxable sales 1947/48	% of state total	Mfg. produc. excluding smelter operations 1947/48	% of state total	Assessed valuation 1948
3.6		\$ 5,048,000	0.7	\$ 1,584,000	1.0	\$ 3,697,000	2.9	\$ 7,999,094
5.0	3c	31,002,000	4.4	15,757,000	9.8	2,670,000	2.1	52,371,502
3.3	16c	21,885,000	3.1	769,000	0.5	5,746,000	4.5	20,073,208
3.7	9c	18,738,000	2.7	35,712,000	22.2	1,401,000	1.0	35,147,649
1.8	4c	10,647,000	1.5	192,000	0.1	2,507,000	2.0	8,487,172 ³
1.8	3c	7,922,000	1.1	58,629,000	36.5	183,000	0.2	70,690,802
1.0	35c	344,787,000	49.3	1,845,000	1.2	85,225,000	67.3	215,297,839
1.3		10,074,000	1.5	462,000	0.3	4,372,000	3.5	14,453,066
4.0		15,527,000	2.2	24,000		2,950,000	2.3	10,900,830
8.0	39c	141,347,000	20.2	20,829,000	13.0	10,792,000	8.5	107,525,786
5.3		26,699,000	3.8	13,866,000	8.6	2,328,000	1.8	48,649,522
1.6	24c	11,896,000	1.7	726,000	0.5	455,000	0.4	6,730,966
4.2	23c	24,799,000	3.5	9,476,000	5.9	1,220,000	1.0	34,602,425
4.0	22c	29,156,000	4.2	664,000	0.4	3,055,000	2.4	28,309,986
		\$699,534,000 ³		\$160,544,000 ³		\$126,609,000 ³		\$661,239,847

obviously inadequate. No place in the state is free from the public insistence for better libraries, more libraries, more modern libraries. One has only to read the editorials in our metropolitan newspapers, talk to service and PTA groups, appear on radio programs, meet with farm and other rural people, to hear this expression of need. Our new generation wants the improvements in its social and economic status of which libraries are an outstanding manifestation. Our new residents, who have helped to swell our population from half a million in 1940 to an estimated 750,000 in 1948, are proving to be a great leavening agent in our culture and society. This is good. But we must respond to the yeast of the more progressive experiences and backgrounds with which they enrich us.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

For the purposes of this survey, no distinction has been made between elementary and secondary school libraries. The ninety schools listed in the 1947/48 Educational Directory as having librarians or teachers assigned to library duty represent only 20% of the total number of public elementary and high schools in the state. Does this mean that 80% of our public schools have no libraries? The latest published figures from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1945/46, give a different picture. There a total of 338 school districts is listed; of this 164 schools, or 48%, have school libraries. The total number of school libraries dropped from 198 in 1944/45 to 164 in 1945/46, possibly through consolidation of school districts. Nevertheless, at best 52% of our public schools have no libraries, at worst 80%. This apparent discrepancy may be explained by the American Library Association's definition of a school library: "An organized collection of books housed in a school for the use of students and teachers, and in charge of a librarian or teacher. In considering the 80% figure, then, we can assume that only 20% of our schools attach enough importance to their library resources to hire librarians or even to assign a teacher part time to organize and supervise their collections.

Apologists cannot dismiss the absence of school libraries by reference to textbook facilities for Arizona school children. The Superintendent of Public Instruction in his 1945/46 Report had this to say: "Although considerable improvement has been made during the past few years in the quality of textual materials, many state-adopted books are outmoded and are, in consequence, unsatisfactory. The need for new materials usually arises from social, political, and scientific changes in society and from the development of improved techniques in teaching youth. Instructional materials provided by the state must remain current. Very inadequate provision for textbooks at present exists in the fields of history, civics, geography, health, reading, music, and dictionaries. Increased expenditures for textual materials in our schools is unavoidable. Additional supplementary texts and materials are necessary if a modern educational program is to be implemented. The lack of adequate school libraries is a serious detriment to the educational program conducted by the majority of the rural schools of the state."

The total enrollment of all public elementary and high schools in Arizona for 1947/48 was 109,702. Of this number, the survey reveals that some 37,386, or 34%, are served by libraries. The percentages of pupils enrolled by counties who have library facilities show a much less variable distribution throughout the state than the

public library chart varying from a low of 7% in Apache County to a high of 44% in Maricopa. One county, Greenlee, did not report school library resources of any kind. Between the high-low of Maricopa-Apache, however, five of the counties reported percentages in the 20% decile, and three in the 30% decile. If this proves anything at all, it is that state aid by legislative appropriation, together with county aid mandatory by state law, provides a more equitable distribution of facilities and opportunity than the haphazard every-man-for-himself development of our state's public libraries. This one bright aspect of the statewide school library picture does not entirely dispel the darker fact that such a great percentage of our schools have no library resources. It proves only that the fortunate percentage having this advantage are less discriminated against than their parents, whose public library facilities are so much more inequitably distributed.

The statewide expenditure for school libraries, exclusive of salaries, was found to be 54c per pupil. The total school expenditure per pupil enrolled was \$118.75. In other words, 0.004% of the state's yearly cost per school child went for school library service. Such an investment for the 13,377 children of Apache, Mohave, Navajo, and Pinal counties, for instance, who are also without supplementary public library resources, seems a pitifully small one, indeed. Actually the average per capita expenditure for school libraries in these four counties is only 25c, so that these counties not only provide no public library facilities for their populations, but spend less than one-half the statewide average for school library services. The national average in 1940/42, the latest year for which published figures are available, was 77c. It has undoubtedly gone up since then.

The 25,676 volumes purchased for school libraries in 1947/48 represent 68/100 of a volume per capita for the 37,386 pupils enrolled in schools with libraries. It is less than 23/100 of a volume for the total statewide school enrollment of 109,702. Yet the book stock of school libraries may not be described only by number of volumes. It is certain that the quality of thousands of library books in Arizona schools is doubtful, being, as many of them are, unwanted gifts, obsolete texts, worn-out and dog-eared relics of another generation's taste. By all reasonable and accepted standards of adequacy they are hopelessly unsuitable to and incommensurate with their purpose and objective. It is acknowledged that this is an opinion; yet for such an evaluation we must rely on the judgment of the professional librarian, being trained as he is, to arrive at such evaluation by way of objective standards and criteria. Over and above this opinion, nevertheless, the layman may still arrive at the same conclusion, for the facts are here for all to judge.

It is a little difficult to assess the status of the personnel assigned to library work in existing school libraries because of the varying number of hours devoted to library supervision and administration. Nevertheless, it is ascertained that the positions range from 30 full-time librarians (only 12 of whom have professional library degrees) to teachers spending as little as 5 hours weekly in their school libraries. These figures apply only to the 63 school libraries reporting for the survey. The remaining 27 libraries listed in the Directory, or 101 listed by the Superintendent, do not meet the American Library Association's definition of a school library. The mere existence of books in a school does not automatically mean adequate school library service, as is proved by the number of Arizona schools which cannot meet North Central Association requirements.

ARIZONA SCHOOL LIBRARY STATISTICS, 1947/48

County	No. of schools report.	No. of pupils served	Total school enroll. 1947/48	% of total enroll.	% of Co. enroll. with libraries	Expenditures (exclusive of salaries)	No. of librarians	Library degrees	Total volumes	Volumes added 1947/48
Apache	1	130	1,803	1.6	7.0	\$ 180.00	½	0	3,016	80
Cochise	8	2,511	6,140	5.5	40.0	2,604.67	2	1	18,704	987
Coconino	2	880	2,558	2.3	37.0	1,320.00	2	1	8,668	580
Gila	2	550 ¹	4,559	4.1	12.0	505.00 ¹	2	0	10,310	402
Graham	2 ²	437	2,686	2.4	16.0	700.00	1½	0	4,587	393
Greenlee ²			2,754	2.5						
Maricopa	28	21,659	48,785	44.5	44.0	39,891.57	17	8	124,859	19,008
Mohave	1	300	1,236	1.1	23.0	533.08	1	0	3,070	226
Navajo	3	836	3,598	3.2	23.0	1,885.95	2	0	8,244	581
Pima	7	7,124	18,198	16.4	39.0	5,723.60	6	1	23,437	2,148 ¹
Pinal	3	620	6,740	6.1	9.0	790.00 ¹	1½	0	5,165 ¹	3
Santa Cruz	1	450	1,715	1.5	26.0	810.60	1	0	5,286	301
Yavapai	3	918	4,577	4.1	20.0	2,021.07	2	1	10,362	402
Yuma	2	971	4,353	3.9	22.0	1,800.00	1½	0	6,200	568
	63	37,386	109,702			\$59,931.15	40 ⁴	12	231,908	25,676

¹One school did not report on this figure.

²No report from any school in this county.

³No report.

⁴Positions listed as part time called ½.

In considering the overall school library picture, it should not be forgotten that for three months of the year most of our public schools are closed, so that even our meager school library resources are unavailable at the very time when they might be making their greatest contribution to the education and recreation of our school-age population. We sincerely hope that the prevailing public sentiment throughout the state is not that of the ranchers of a Pima County rural school district who were quoted as saying they were against school libraries because "the kids bring the books home and don't want to do their chores!" We feel confident that the public expression of teachers, parents, and organized groups of every kind for the extension of school library service to areas now without it is more truly representative.

This need is pointed up by the summarization of the present school library situation in Arizona:

1. We are fully one-third below the national average per capita support of public school libraries.

2. At best, 52% of our existing schools have no libraries.

3. Only 0.004% of the total annual cost of \$118.75 per pupil enrolled goes for school libraries.

4. Only 23/100 of a book per pupil enrolled was added to Arizona's school libraries in 1947/48.

5. Only 12 school librarians in the entire state have professional library degrees.

The National Education Association says¹: "The goal of American education is for all children to have the fullest possible opportunity for growth and development according to their individual needs and abilities. Such an objective is not affected by the location or economic condition either of the children or of their community." In a democracy we believe, in theory, that limited economic status and the chance location of residence must not result in grossly inadequate physical and educational opportunities. Here in Arizona we have the chance to equalize the educational opportunities of our state's children by increasing their library service. At present children of hundreds of rural areas have no access to books, either at home, at school, or at public library branches and stations. No bookmobiles ply their schedules between the wealth of a central agency and the country crossroad to keep appointments with bookless children. Nor do other bookmobile services such as art and museum exhibits, music recordings, and educational films enrich the lives of most of our rural school children.

Books for all our people—this is our goal.

Do the 200,000 Arizonians without books want books?

Yes! They have spoken out, through organized groups, and, more importantly, as individuals. They write personally by the hundreds each year to the State Library, the University Library, the State College Libraries. They write for help, help in learning how to do things to improve their jobs, homes, communities, leisure hours. They write for help in being better parents, for help in being better citizens by learning how to participate in their local governments. They write for help in learning to understand the bewildering complexities of our shrinking world. They write, too, for help in starting libraries, for help in beginning the long-dreamed-of task.

¹INEA: A policy for rural education in the U.S., 1940, p. 16.

²No report from any school in this county.

³No report.

⁴Positions listed as part time called ½.

Do any of you who read this know what it is like to grow up without books? Have you all been the lucky ones who had school libraries, who lived in communities with public libraries, whose parents could afford books for your homes? Not all of us have been so fortunate. Many "native" Arizona librarians remember the barren years of our bookless childhoods. Are we going to compound this injury, perpetuate this inequality? If Arizonians are to grow to more than mechanical men, pulled and hauled by forces we do not understand, we must have more than comic books and mystery stories for sustenance. No man in mid-twentieth century can escape his personal responsibility for society as it impinges on his immediate environment. To this exciting task each of us must bring the most informed and alert minds we can muster. The citizens of Arizona who will become our spokesmen in the future should have an equal chance—the farm boy from Yuma County equally with the lawyer's son from Phoenix, the section hand from Cochise County equally with the professor's son from Tucson.

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THREE ARIZONIANS IN NEW ORLEANS

Phyllis Ball

There were just three Arizona librarians among the 321 registrants at the 12th Biennial Conference of the Southwestern Library Association, meeting in New Orleans from October 31-November 4, 1948, but the convention corridors and rostrums were teeming with friends of Arizona. The Convention's theme—"The Challenge of Change"—seemed a subtly appropriate one for Arizona, now standing, with a legislative bill prepared, on the threshold of a new era of library service. Wise advice and warm concern for "the Arizona situation" was evident in the general sessions as in section meetings and after-hour conferences.

Prominent in various convention activities were such well-known friends of Arizona libraries as Miss Helen Ridgway, Public Library Specialist of the American Library Association; Miss Essae M. Culver, Louisiana State Librarian; and Mr. Ralph Hudson, Oklahoma State Librarian. At the Second General Session, presided over by Miss Culver, Miss Ridgway spoke on "Library Progress in the Southwest" outlining her visits to the various states in the Association during the spring of 1948, including Arizona, and noting briefly her recommendations, to be issued soon, which grew out of her inspections and observations.

Thoughtfully planned and beautifully executed as all the general sessions and section meetings of the whole Convention were, the real highlight of the meeting was the Post-conference Clinic on Library Demonstrations, arranged and directed by Miss Sallie Farrell. Here every word spoken seemed meant for Arizona librarians and the thousands of book-starved hearts and minds without any library service at all in that state. Of particular interest and importance to the Arizonians, the Clinic featured such library extension specialists as Mrs. Gretchen K. Schenk who spoke on "Trends in Regional Library Development", as well as Miss Culver, speaking on "Preliminary State Planning and Basic Points to Include in Library Law", and Miss Irene Mason who reported on library extension "Progress in Arkansas." Louisiana librarians explained the whole process of the organization and execution of Louisiana's "demonstration" libraries: the selection of books, the preparation of an area for service, the arrangements for permanent financial support. On Thursday, November 4th, Clinic visitors were able to take a field trip to Lafourche Parish Library, visiting the headquarters library and several branches, and inspecting the new Lafourche Parish bookmobile. The trip proved to be a successful demonstration of the Louisiana plan in action.

Miss Patricia Paylore, Acting Librarian of the University of Arizona Library, Tucson, is completing a two-year term as Secretary of the Southwestern Library Association, and so was responsible for coverage of the meeting. Mr. Harold W. Batchelor, Librarian at Arizona State College, Tempe, was Chairman of the College and Reference Section and planned the three meetings of that Section. One of the principal speakers at the Section's luncheon at Arnaud's Restaurant was Mr. William H. Carlson, former Librarian at the University of Arizona, and now Director of Libraries at Oregon State College, Corvallis.

In addition to Mr. Carlson, another former Arizona librarian in attendance was Miss Flora Eckert, one-time cataloger at the University Library and now at the University of Texas.

In between the exciting round of meetings, time was found for visits to New Orleans' famed cemeteries, the waterfront (ships from South America unloading coffee and bananas), Audubon Park, Lake Pontchartrain, and (of course) the Vieux Carre. Antoine's Pompano en Papillote, breakfast at the Morning Call (huge sugar bowls chained to the walls with padlocks!), the friendly monkey on the balcony of beautiful Pontalba Apartments off Jackson Square, the undrinkable New Orleans water—these are fleeting impressions. But the astonishing friendliness of scores of librarians, known and unknown, from all the states represented in the Southwestern Library Association, and their warm interest in Arizona's problems, remain as real evidence of our place in the Southwestern family. Arizona owes a wealth of gratitude to the many wise and sincere librarians at the 1948 Convention who gave so generously and unselfishly of their time, knowledge, and energy to the consideration of Arizona's particular difficulties. May we profit by what they have taught us!

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NEWS AROUND THE STATE

The Editor

An article by **Dorothy Burge** on the library which she heads at the American Institute for Foreign Trade appears, with pictures, in the November 15, 1948, issue of the **Library Journal**. You are invited to read about this interesting specialized collection.

Another Arizona librarian, Janet Marsh of the Carnegie Library in Tucson discusses children's literature in an article in the winter issue of the **Arizona Teacher Parent** entitled "Unused Riches."

Our voice is being heard.

In the issue of **Arizona Farmer** for November 13, 1948, another fine article discusses the needs of rural people in Arizona for increased library service. Truly, no group in our state has been so neglected, but before our next issue goes to press, these needs may be nearer to being met.

Big news, of course, is the success of bond issues in Phoenix and Yuma which will provide an entirely new central building (so desperately needed) for Phoenix and an annex for Yuma. Both libraries are buzzing with plans. **Mrs. Addie Kline** writes from Yuma, "We will be very busy for the next year, but happy."

Gertrude James, supervisor of libraries for Phoenix elementary schools, and chairman of the Publicity Committee of the Arizona State Library Association, will act as coordinator for the legislative efforts for the next few weeks. All progress reports, news items, and publicity should be reported to her at East Lincoln Street in Phoenix where a central file is kept.

Harold Batchelor reports from Tempe that the stacks at the Matthews Library are being enlarged by a Library Bureau installation and that the extension should care for immediate congestion and about two years growth. Mr. Batchelor himself has been appointed to the Subscription Books Committee of the American Library Association for a 1948-50 term.

When the Pima County Library opened a station in Sopori in September, the delighted children wrote letters of appreciation to the librarian. Here is one which captivated the staff.

Dear Mrs. Burt,

I am writing to thank you for all the nice books you brought for us. Well I think that all of the books that you brought we would all like and today our teacher let us read and look over the books, and today I am going to take the book named "Dear Dead Mother-in-law."

Yours truly,
Orelia Martinez

From cold, windy Chicago where she has worked in the public libraries, comes **Mrs. Gertrude Kuehl** to join the staff at the main desk at the Carnegie Free Library in Tucson.

Humble apologies to **Patience Golter** whose name was omitted from the directory listing in the fall **Librarian**. In addition to her work with the Phoenix Elementary Schools libraries, Mrs. Golter is working hard on the association's legislative committee.

The Executive Committee voted at a recent meeting to hold the annual meeting of the association in Tucson. The date has not been set as this issue goes to press, but members will be notified in plenty of time to plan several days in the south of the state in the pleasant spring.

Miss Helen Ridgway, Public Library Specialist of the American Library Association, and **Miss Sallie Farrell**, field worker of the Louisiana State Library, spent the week following Thanksgiving in Arizona working with committees and members of the association on plans for extension of library service. Neither one, it is feared, got much opportunity to see Arizona. They were shuttled from library, to committee, to meeting, and to interview in order to take all possible advantage of their time and precious advice. The association is deeply appreciative of their efforts in its behalf and to the American Library Association and the Southwestern Library Association which sponsored their visits here. They will have to return again to learn that Arizona isn't all work and no play.

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